



GERMAN CAPTAIN CONFESSES VAST BOMB PLOTTING

Hamburg-American Men Implicated in Plot to Blow Up or Burn Allies' Ships

BOY-ED AND PAPAN IN IT

Arrested Men Name Recalled Attachés of German Embassy as "Higher-Ups"

NEW YORK, April 13. Full confession of the details of a plot to blow up ships carrying munitions to the Allies has been made by Captain Charles von Kleist, retired sea captain, and one of the four men arrested last night, the police announced today.

The arrested men are: ERNEST BECKER, stationer on Friedrichstrasse, said by police to have confessed making hundreds of bombs. CAPTAIN CHARLES VON KLEIST, retired sea captain of German birth, who manufactured explosive and mysterious bombs. CAPTAIN OTTO WOLPERT, shipper of the Friedrichstrasse, accused of having received complete bomb-making instructions.

FRANZ VON HINTELIN, indicted here on a conspiracy charge. CAPTAIN ERNEST PAPAN, CAPTAIN CARL BOY-ED, recalled military and naval attachés of the German Government.

The Hamburg liner Friedrich der Grosse interned at Hoboken was the alleged bomb factory.

"Sworn" until daybreak today, von Kleist broke down and admitted that he was superintendent of a factory in Hoboken where bombs were made, the police stated. "Certain portions of his confession are being withheld. Police Captain Tunney believes he is now on the trail of the man 'higher up,' alleged to have acted as go-between in dealings Captain Boy-Ed, Captain von Papan and a mysterious 'Captain Sternburg' had with the bomb plotters.

"Lieutenant" Robert Fay, indicted several weeks ago on a charge of conspiring to blow up munition ships, furnished the police the information on which von Kleist and his alleged fellow conspirators were arrested.

FRIEND OF BISMARCK. Von Kleist was born in Gommern, Prussia. He told the police that he lived within a block of the home of Bismarck, and that his father was a personal friend of the former German Chancellor.

Before the war von Kleist was in command of the freighter Hauloway, owned by Church Brothers, of Tiffany, R. I. Shortly after the outbreak of the war he met a man in Hoboken, after learning that he was a German, and investigating his record, the stranger offered him a position as superintendent of a factory in Hoboken, which was to manufacture fertilizer.

GERMAN DIPLOMATS INVOLVED. At various times the factory received sums of money through a man named Hansen. This man, according to the police, was the agent of von Papan, Boy-Ed and other German officials.

Later the factory began manufacturing bombs and a chemist was hired at \$10,000 a year. The first bomb was placed aboard the Kirk Owens, which exploded five days after the vessel left port. When the bomb failed to go off "Captain Sternburg" and others at the factory attacked the chemist in the laboratory, alleging that he was guilty of treason. The chemist finally convinced Sternburg that the shell of the bomb was too thick and that the acid could not eat its way through.

After the arrest of Fay, Scholz, Max Bretting and others, the conspirators became very cautious and finally closed the factory on April 1, von Kleist was quoted as saying:

BOMBS WERE "TIMED". The police say they found two boxes of powder, two lead bombs and 12 aluminum milk testers, which were to be used to measure acid, in von Kleist's home at 3121 Garden street, in Hoboken.

The bombs, according to Police Captain Tunney, were of chemical composition, and would create a fierce heat on going off. He credits many of the fires on Allied vessels at sea to them.

TWO WIVES CONFRONT MAN

One Says He Threatened to Kill Her if She Exposed Him

Two wives confronted Charles H. De Council, 31 years old, of Columbia avenue above 21st street, in the night court, last night. The second wife testified that De Council threatened to kill her if she exposed him after he had confessed to her that he already had a wife.

De Council's first marriage took place on January 9, 1915, when he married Miss Agnes McMenamin, of 1941 North 23d street. They separated in four months.

On January 22 of this year, he married Miss Hazel Blum, of 2321 Master, eloping to Elkton, Md., on the advice of the girl's mother. Magistrate Beaton held De Council in \$600 bail for court.

THE WEATHER

The more we study the weather, the more fascinating, not to say fanciful, are the facts which we are enabled to unearth. For example, we were standing in the foyer of the Academy pulsating with memories of Beethoven's Fifth and asked a friend, "Well, what did you think of the symphony?" For reply he grumbled, "Why, I should say it meant continued rain." Properly defined, we asked what he meant, concealing the fact that we are a weather prophet by profession. He explained that in damp or wet weather the strings of the violin "swelled up as thick as anchor chains" and produced tones of no greater sweetness. We admitted that we had always hated to be coaxed to perform on anchor chains, as we had felt they did not bring out our best musical abilities, and passed on.

Notwithstanding which, the real question in its briefest form is: "Can they win again today?"

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity—Unsettled and warmer tonight, with probably showers; Friday partly cloudy; gentle variable winds.

For details see page 4.

LOST AND FOUND

DAK PIN—Lost Tuesday evening, April 11, near 15th and Spruce streets, a gold watch and a small diamond and sapphire ring set with diamonds. Reward if returned to 15th and Spruce streets, Philadelphia, Pa. H. S. HANDEL.

Handkerchief—Lost lady's leather bag containing a handkerchief, a small diamond and sapphire ring set with diamonds. Reward if returned to 15th and Spruce streets, Philadelphia, Pa. H. S. HANDEL.

Other Lost and Found Ads on Page 16

BOMBS INTENDED FOR ALLIES' SHIPS

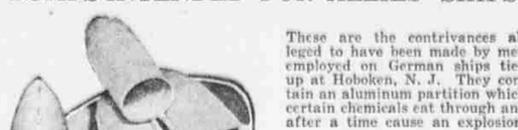


Photo by Int. Film Service.

These are the contrivances alleged to have been made by men employed on German ships tied up at Hoboken, N. J. They contain an aluminum partition which certain chemicals eat through and after a time cause an explosion.

TABLES CLEARED FOR 'SHOWDOWN' ON U-BOAT ISSUE

Berlin's Reply to Latest Protests to Bring Controversy to Head

ANSWER BEING FRAMED

The Berlin reply to the latest American protests on its U-boat policy is summarized as follows:

Germany admits having sunk a vessel something similar to the Sussex, near where the Sussex met disaster, and on the same day. But a sketch drawn of the vessel sunk by the submarine commander (whether before or after the explosion is not told) is so different in several particulars from a photograph obtained of the Sussex itself that Germany declares it was not the Sussex which the commander torpedoed. It believes the Sussex hit a mine, and points out that as many as 28 floating mines have been destroyed by the Germans in the Channel in one day. The vessel sunk is claimed to have conducted itself like a minelayer.

Berwindale—As soon as she sighted the submarine, she put out her lights and attempted to escape. Was fired on, and after crew had left ship, torpedoed.

Englishman—Ordered to stop by two warning shots, but tried to escape. Was fired on; lowered own boats voluntarily, and was then torpedoed after the crew had been given time to escape.

Manchester Engineer—Has been impossible, on the evidence submitted by the United States, to determine if this vessel was torpedoed.

Eagle Point—Ordered by two shots to halt, but fled. Thereupon was fired upon until halted and, after crew had taken to small boats, was sunk.

WASHINGTON, April 13. The tables are now clear for the "showdown" between the United States and Germany on the submarine question. Disclaiming responsibility for the explosion which wrecked the Sussex, in the English Channel, and declaring itself guilty of any violation of assurances to this Government in its submarine attacks upon four other vessels carrying Americans, Germany, nevertheless, in its answer to inquiries from Ambassador Gerard, has made the expected proposal for further negotiations.

Germany will be afforded an opportunity to retract and renege pledges that international law will be observed by her submarine commanders. President Wilson has no intention, and a formal communication, acting forth with a wealth of detail what the United States regards as improper action by German U-boat officers, is now being drafted.

It will be considered and probably approved at tomorrow's cabinet session, at which time the German reply claiming privilege in the sinking of various vessels and denying responsibility for the disaster

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SOTTOMARINO VITTIMA D'UNA MINA ITALIANA

La Silurante Austriaca Saltata in Aria Mentre Aspettava la Sua Preda

Il ministero italiano della Marina, dice un telegramma da Roma, ha confermato ufficialmente la notizia che un sottomarino austriaco rimase recentemente distrutto al largo di un porto italiano dell'Adriatico, nottate che correva da qualche giorno e che era stata data poi dall'agenzia Stefani in un comunicato ufficiale. Si crede che il sottomarino urto contro una mina.

Il rapporto del generale Cadorna pubblicato ieri sera dal ministero della Guerra, dice che gli Italiani hanno conquistato una forte linea di trincee a di ridosso austriache nella zona di Riva, e precisamente sul gruppo di montagne che si stende a nord-ovest della città, tra la Val di Cansel e la valle del Sarca. Questo nuovo successo italiano mostra che le forze operanti della Val di Ledro continuano la loro metodica offensiva intesa ad avvicinarsi sempre più da vicino la fortezza di Riva, che è già circondata da tre lati ed a cui è rimasta la sola valle del Sarca come via di comunicazione e ritirata per la guarnigione. Le altre strade sono occupate dagli Italiani o sotto il fuoco dei loro cannoni.

(Leggere in 6a pagina altre e più dettagliate notizie sulla guerra, in italiano.)

SCANDAL FLIES FASTEST

Professor Holds Truth Slowest Traveler, Except Alarm Clock's Sound

MADISON, Wis., April 13.—Scandal travels 1000 yards per second, according to Prof. Benjamin Snow, head of the University of Wisconsin's physics department. Professor Snow bases his calculations on observations made at the university.

Platner has the second greatest speed, the professor finds, traveling from 489 to 599 yards in the same time. Truth, however, he declares, is slowest of all, moving only about two and a half yards per second. The computations, he said, were based on the speed of the sound of an alarm clock, which is zero.

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CARRANZA DEMANDS U. S. QUIT VILLA CHASE, CITING WILSON'S PLEDGE TO WITHDRAW TROOPS

Mexican First Chief Declares Permission for Expedition Was Never Given, But Allowed Later on Limited Scope

Massing of De Facto Forces Near Border and to Rear of Pershing's Men Alarms Officialdom, Fearing Blow, Unless President Agrees to Carranza's Demand

The de facto government of Mexico through First Chief Carranza today demands that American troops be withdrawn from Mexico and the pursuit of Francisco Villa be abandoned. The text of the note demanding withdrawal has been received by Carranza Ambassador Designate Arredondo in Washington, but has not yet been delivered to Secretary Lansing.

The basis for the demands are: First—That American troops were sent into Mexico, following the Villista raid on Columbus, N. M., March 9, through a misinterpretation of the Carranza note of March 10, which, Carranza contends, was assent to the opening of negotiations only.

Second—That since the expedition already has begun, without the knowledge of the Mexican Government, the troops would be allowed to remain until its purpose had been accomplished, this purpose, as defined by President Wilson, being to "pursue Villa and his hands until destroyed or dispersed, or until the Carranza troops were able to take up the task."

Third—That this purpose now had been accomplished and negotiations for the withdrawal of the forces should begin, for "sufficient numbers of Mexican troops were now pursuing Villa."

Carranza Seeks to Hold Wilson to Pledge Interpretation of the Carranza note is that the First Chief is now holding President Wilson to his pledge to withdraw the American troops as soon as the Mexican forces were able to cope with the situation, this pledge having been made after the entrance into Mexico on a misunderstanding.

Washington is perturbed over the situation, particularly for the safety of General Pershing's men, since reports from the border indicate that they are now surrounded by Carranza troops more than double their number. It is said Pershing has 14,000 troops and that Mexican leaders have vowed vengeance against them.

Mexicans Prepared to Strike United States Troops

It is said that the Carranza forces are prepared to strike unless the American Government agrees to withdraw. Even at that fears are entertained, because it is believed that Carranza might not be able to control all his forces.

The Americans are at least 400 miles within Mexico, with lines of communication none too strong. Unless an amicable agreement is reached they are considered in a critical situation.

CARRANZA FORCES SURROUND U. S. ARMY; AWAIT WILSON'S ACTION

EL PASO, Tex., April 13.—General Pershing's expedition in Mexico, estimated to number now 14,000 men, is surrounded today by more than twice that number of Carranzistas waiting for the diplomatic "showdown" that must follow the de facto Mexican Government's demand that the United States troops be withdrawn.

This fact was clearly shown in all reports reaching the border today from Mexico. They revealed that Minister of War Obregon is sending Carranza troops to advantageous tactical positions along the American line of communication.

General Arnulfo Gomez, who has dramatically announced that he will be known in history as "Black" Gomez because of the number of "gringos" he will kill, is headed eastward from Sonora with a force of approximately 5000 men. General Obregon has also ordered 4500 men into the Cusihuahua.

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BRUMBAUGH REFUSES TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT OTHER CHECKS

Will Not Reply to "Rumors" of Contributions He Received in Addition to That of Oliver

PROMINENT MEN NAMED

A dispatch from Harrisburg to a Philadelphia morning newspaper, published today, says that Governor was seen at the executive mansion at the Capital last night by a representative of the newspaper, and shown a series of questionnaires on contributions. It was rumored, he received outside of the one he got from David C. Oliver. These questionnaires, the dispatch continues, were as follows:

It is currently rumored that in addition to the Oliver contribution, you were the recipient of other gifts or loans from other persons while you were a candidate for Governor. Is this true?

Did you receive any sum of money either in check or cash from Mr. Kolb (Louis J. Kolb, of this city, his personal friend), and if so, how much, and what use did you make of it?

"Just a moment," said the Governor, according to the dispatch. "Let me have that list of questions," and he reached for the paper containing the questions and proceeded to read it. As he went down over the page, he looked puzzled and remarked: "This seems to call for more than ordinary inspection. I will read it over and dictate the answers at the Capitol tonight."

Did you receive any sum of money, either in check or cash, from Clarence Wolf, and if so, how much, and what use did you make of it?

Did you receive any sum of money, either in check or cash, from Edwin Wolf, and if so, how much, and what use did you make of it?

Did you receive any sum of money, either in check or cash, from Charles McKeon, and if so, how much, and what use did you make of it?

Did you receive any sum of money, either in check or cash, from Robert

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EXTRA U. S. TROOPS FIRED UPON IN SOUTH CHIHUAHUA TOWN

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 13.—American soldiers were fired upon at Parral yesterday. Major General Funston was officially notified of the matter today. The report to him, however, made no mention of casualties. The fire was returned by the American soldiers. The first news of the engagement came from General Gutierrez, Carranzista commander in Chihuahua, it being transmitted through American Agent Letcher, now at Chihuahua City. The message from General Gutierrez said that Villistas and citizens of Parral, a railroad centre in southern Chihuahua, "exchanged shots" with the Americans because the arrival of the latter at dawn had been a surprise.

CITY TREASURER REPORTS BALANCE OF \$5,776,508

The weekly statement of City Treasurer William McCoach shows that the receipts amounted to \$187,434.76, and the payments to \$1,719,413.88, which, with the sum on hand last week, not including the sinking fund account, left a balance of \$5,776,508.63 on hand at the close of business last night.

U. S. BATTLESHIPS COLLIDE IN GULF; DAMAGE SLIGHT

WASHINGTON, April 13.—United States battleships South Carolina and Michigan collided while maneuvering in the Gulf of Mexico late yesterday, advice to the Navy Department today stated. Admiral Fletcher, commander of the Atlantic fleet, reported the damage was slight and no one was injured. The vessels are on their way from Guantanamo to northern waters for spring practice.

BERLIN TO LOWER PRICE OF BEEF

BERLIN, April 13.—Regulations for the distribution of Berlin's beef supply, which will soon become effective, include the fixing of maximum prices. The new prices will mean a reduction of 30 to 50 per cent. from the present prices.

NAVARRRE FIGHTS OFF FIVE FOKKER AEROS

PARIS, April 13.—French aviators over the Verdun lines have now established a complete ascendancy and every day sees fresh exploits. Last week Adjutant Navarre, who has accounted for seven German aeroplanes, was in the air 24 hours in three days. A few days ago he fought five Fokker single handed. "They were fairly far off," said Navarre, "to the right and left, and before and behind. I made sure that my baby was well in hand, and I did some tricks to amuse them. Suddenly, as if at a given signal, all five bore down on me. I waited for them. Then I made three little loops and came up behind two Fokkers. Naturally I let drive at them. The others dared not try to snipe me for fear of hitting their own pals. It was extremely funny."

"ABSURD," SAYS SPAIN'S PREMIER OF U-BOAT'S ACT

MADRID, April 13.—"We are confronted with such an incomprehensibly absurd act that I am loath to believe it until a thorough inquiry has been made," said Count Romanones, the Spanish Premier, with regard to the torpedoing of the Spanish steamship Santandrin in the Bay of Biscay, as a consequence of which four lives were lost. "I am waiting for full information before taking action," the Premier added. "I may say, however, that preliminary instructions have already been telegraphed to our Ambassador in Berlin."

U-BOAT COMMANDER GETS HIGHEST DECORATION

BERLIN, April 13.—Pour le Merite, the Prussian order founded by Frederick the Great for the particular purpose of recognizing exceptional merit in military and naval matters, has been conferred on Lieutenant Otto Steinbrink, "the commander of a submarine."

2,500,000 BRITISH TROOPS IN FRANCE

LONDON, April 13.—A Daily News dispatch from Paris states that the French Bulletin des Armes says the British army in France, which numbered 60,000 in August of 1914, now numbers 2,500,000.

MORGANTHAU WILL RETURN TO TURKEY IN MAY

WASHINGTON, April 13.—Henry Morgenthau, Ambassador to Turkey, has been in this country several weeks on a leave of absence, last night authorized a denial of the report that he would tender his resignation today, do not expect to resign and expect to sail for Constantinople early in May, he said.

ITALY WORRIED OVER RUMANIAN INTENTIONS

ROME, April 13.—Uneasiness about the intentions of Rumania, which for a considerable time was much allayed, is again manifest owing to Rumania's renewed commercial relations with the Central Powers. There is a general feeling that Rumania should not be trusted until she shows her intentions by acts. The closing of the Russian-Rumanian frontier is supposed to be a measure of reprisal for the Rumanian economic arrangements with Bulgaria and the central empires.

FRENCH SENATE TO FIX MAXIMUM FOOD PRICES

PARIS, April 13.—The French Senate has just adopted the principle of fixing by decree the maximum selling prices of necessities of life. The Government proposes to fix the prices of bread, meat, milk, butter, imitation butter, eggs, lard, potatoes, sugar, cheese, green vegetables, wine, cider, table beer, fertilizers, petroleum and alcohol for burning purposes. The proposed period of application is the duration of the war and three months following the cessation of hostilities.

MINOR ACCIDENT DELAYS COMMUTERS

Hundreds of commuters were late to their offices this morning, when the coupler of a freight train gave way near Oak Lane, and as a result three passenger trains were held up. The Buffalo express, the Trenton local and the Lansdale local were from 20 minutes to half an hour late.

60,000 GERMANS SHIFTED TO VERDUN FRONT

LONDON, April 13.—"News has arrived here from Munich, via Constance," says an Express dispatch from Geneva, "that the German Staff, counting on an enforced temporary inaction by the Russians, owing to the bad roads and the weather, is transferring every spare division to the Verdun front. The number transferred is estimated at 60,000. These troops will act chiefly as reserves, and will be ready to return to the eastern front when danger threatens there. The efficiency of the German military railways has been trebled since the beginning of the war."

TOWNSHEND WELL; EXPECTS SPEEDY AID

JOHANNESBURG, April 13.—Sir Lionel Phillips, a leading South African gold mine operator, announces that he has received a message from Major General Charles Townshend, commander of the British troops besieged at Kut-el-Amara, Mesopotamia, stating that he is well and expecting to be relieved shortly.

BRITAIN PUTS GOLD ON CONTRABAND LIST

LONDON, April 13.—A royal proclamation was issued last night extending the list of articles which hereafter will be treated as actual contraband. Included in the list are "gold, silver and paper money and all negotiable instruments and realizable securities."

POPE DISPLEASED AT MERCIER'S ACTIVITY

LONDON, April 13.—According to reports circulating in Vatican circles, the Pope is annoyed by what is called the "Cardinal Mercier's excessive activity." He sent a fresh message of moderation to the Belgian Primate, but as for the Pontiff has resisted pressure from many quarters to disavow Cardinal Mercier's attitude. The Pontiff doesn't wish to resort to any action which might imperil even apparently the neutrality of the Holy See, but he firmly believes that the resurrection of Belgium is not being assisted by the hostile attitude of its population to the present occupants, which, it is held, can only delay it by hindering the efforts of those working for its attainment.